

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I would like to thank Congressman HONDA and the Asian Pacific American Caucus for organizing a special order tonight to honor Asian Pacific Americans and the great contributions they have made to our Nation. I would also like to say that I am very proud to be a member of the Tri-Caucus, which unites the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Congressional Black Caucus. Mr. Speaker, I strongly believe in the importance of honoring all of our country's unique cultures, and it is truly a privilege to participate in this special order.

Asian Pacific Americans have played a tremendous role in the development of our Nation. I would first like to acknowledge the late Congresswoman Patsy Takemoto Mink, our first woman of color to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. She was a trailblazer for Asian Pacific Americans, and it is wonderful to see that her impact is still felt and that her legacy continues.

As Representative of California's Ninth U.S. Congressional District, APA Heritage month is especially important to me. Asian and Pacific Island American culture has a very large impact in the cities of my district.

My district is the birthplace of Amy Tan, a Chinese-American woman and New York Times bestselling author best known for her novel *The Joy Luck Club*, and its subsequent film adaptation. She has received countless acknowledgments including the Bay Area Book Reviewer's Award. Today, Ms. Tan's novels and short stories are a part of high schools and universities' literary curricula nationwide.

My district is also the birthplace of Fred Korematsu, born in Oakland to Japanese immigrants, who challenged the World War II internment of Japanese American citizens. As an American citizen Mr. Korematsu refused to go to an internment camp, but he was arrested, sent to one in 1942 and branded a spy by newspapers. He opposed the internment policy in the Supreme Court, but in its ignoble 1944 decision the Supreme Court upheld the policy. In 1983 Mr. Korematsu appealed his conviction, which a Federal court overturned acknowledging that the Government's case at the time had been based on misleading and racially biased information. President Bill Clinton awarded Mr. Korematsu the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998, honoring Mr. Korematsu for fighting for human rights and ensuring the very liberties that created this great Nation.

Today, the legacy of Asian Pacific American leaders such as Ms. Tan and Mr. Korematsu

is apparent in the numerous remarkable programs and initiatives in APA communities throughout my district. There are several that I would like to recognize, including Oakland Asian Students Educational Services also known as OASES. As the city of Oakland is one of three cities in the Bay Area that has the lowest high school graduation rates for Asian students, this organization works to decrease cultural gaps in education. OASES reaches out to all youth with limited resources and limited educational opportunities, particularly children of Asian Pacific Islander families.

I would also like to recognize the Oakland Asian Cultural Center. This center works by employing the belief that upholding cultural tradition and honoring cultural heritage are at the core of maintaining healthy and lively communities. The center presents a variety of cultural festivities and artistic expression in dance, literature, music and visual arts. The center is an excellent resource for understanding the legacy of Asian and Pacific Island Americans and their great influence on the cultural identities of our communities.

My district is also home to several of the nation's leading health care providers for APA communities. Asian Community Mental Health Services, for example, is an organization that offers access to and increases community acceptance of mental healthcare, which in many APA communities remains taboo. Asian Health Services is another organization that works to ensure that members of APA communities can overcome challenges to obtaining high-quality, affordable healthcare due to language barriers, income, lack of insurance coverage and cultural differences.

Lastly, I would like to bring special attention to Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice (ACRJ) and its Executive Director, Ms. Eveline Shen. Founded in 1989, ACRJ has been a longtime leader in ensuring that APA women and girls are equipped with the tools to make important decisions about their reproductive health. Under the leadership of Ms. Shen, ACRJ places reproductive health and freedom at the center of promoting social and economic freedom for APA women in the shadows of patriarchal cultures. During her nearly two decades of community organizing and eight years at ACRJ, Ms. Shen has become a leader in building a social justice movement in APA communities, which is one of the fastest growing constituencies in California and in my district. I commend Ms. Shen and ACRJ's dedication to assisting APA women to obtain the American promise of "liberty and justice for all."

As our Nation is home to so many people from all over the world, it is important that we continue to bring attention to the issues that affect all communities. It is our responsibility to ensure that no one is ignored and that equal attention is given to all groups. It is also our duty to seek justice for those who are underrepresented. And, lastly, it is our privilege to come together to celebrate the accomplishments of the many leaders throughout American history, who have embodied excel-

lence in advancing the principles of democracy, freedom and justice for all of our communities and strengthening the foundation of America.

Mr. Speaker, again I would like to thank Mr. HONDA and the APA Caucus for inviting me to participate in this special order. Let us continue to unite, pay tribute to Asian Pacific Americans and remember the importance their outstanding contributions to our Nation.

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SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 9, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, today and throughout the month of May, we celebrate the many contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made to the fabric of our communities and to this Nation as a whole.

More than 100 Members of Congress work together in the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to promote Asian Pacific American issues and concerns, and I'm pleased that we are led by my long-time friend and colleague, Congressman MIKE HONDA.

Congressman HONDA and I are proud to represent San Jose, California and surrounding areas, a community blessed with diversity and culture from around the world, including close to 350,000 Asian Pacific Americans.

Some notable Asian Pacific Americans from our area include Norman Mineta, the longest serving Secretary in the history of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the first Asian American mayor of a major U.S. city, and the first Asian American Cabinet member during the Clinton Administration.

San Jose Councilmember Madison Nguyen is another extraordinary Asian Pacific American. She is the first Vietnamese American woman elected to office in the State of California.

Another distinguished Asian Pacific American from the San Jose area is Dr. Allan Seid who founded Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI), the largest social services nonprofit organization serving the Asian Pacific American community in Santa Clara County.

Vinod Khosla has contributed immensely to Silicon Valley as a distinguished venture capitalist and a co-founder of Sun Microsystems, headquartered in Santa Clara, California, a company that has grown into one of the largest providers of computers, computer components, software, and information-technology services.

In this Congress, there are five Asian Pacific Americans serving our Nation and their communities as members of the House of Representatives, as well as one delegate from

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

American Samoa and two Asian Pacific Americans serving in the Senate. I am proud that the California Democratic Delegation includes two of these Representatives from the Asian Pacific American community.

In the field of science and technology, Asian Pacific Americans have long contributed to our country, from Ellison Onizuka, the first Asian-American in space, to Flossi Wong-Staal and Dr. David D. Ho, for their work on HIV and AIDS. Moreover, several Asian Pacific Americans have received Nobel Prizes for their accomplishments in science and technology.

Hundreds of thousands of Asian Pacific Americans have also loyally served our Nation in the military willing to give their life for the United States of America. Asian Pacific American veterans of the Armed Forces number 312,700.

In sports, Asian Pacific Americans have helped bring home Olympic gold medals for the United States, including the first woman to win gold medals in the ten and three meter diving events—Filipina American Victoria Manalo Draves.

Although it is important for us to celebrate Asian Pacific American heritage this month, we must not forget the plight that Asian Pacific Americans endure despite the community's many accomplishments.

The pitfalls of immigration law and the backlog of immigration applications continue to prevent many Asian Pacific American families from reuniting for several years.

We must also not forget that the APA community suffers from greater poverty than non-Hispanic Whites, especially in the Hmong, Laotian, Cambodian, and Vietnamese American communities.

We must work to ensure that Asian Pacific Americans are appropriately counted when our government collects data that will be used to understand the needs of the APA community.

We must make every effort to invite Asian Pacific Americans to participate in government to ensure that our government meets the needs of the APA community.

In commemoration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, I honor the contributions of millions of Asian Pacific Americans who have contributed to our nation and who I am sure will continue to contribute in the future. But while I celebrate this month, I also renew my pledge to address the issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans around the country.

RECOGNIZING BRADY MILLER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brady Miller, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brady has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. For his Eagle Scout project, he constructed a 114 foot walking trail off the main trail at Platte Ridge Park for the Platte County Parks and Recre-

ation Department. Over the many years Brady has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brady Miller for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO STODDART-FLEISHER MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Stoddart-Fleisher Middle School, located in North Central Philadelphia. The Stoddart-Fleisher School will be closing this summer after providing 80 years of service to our community.

Throughout its history, this fine school has played an important role in the community and it has always provided a quality education to its attending students. Stoddart-Fleisher was the product of a merger in 1950 of the Stoddard and Fleisher schools. Both schools have a history of providing vocational and regular academic training for students in the area of North Central Philadelphia. In recent years, Stoddard has been a neighborhood school for seventh and eighth grade students.

The continued growth of kindergarten through eighth grade schools throughout the city as well as a population shift to other parts of the city have resulted in declining enrollment for Stoddard, especially within the past 5 years. This summer will mark the end of a great era in public education for North Central Philadelphia and we are sad to see our community lose such a respected institution.

On June 16th, there will be a commemorative reception and program for Stoddard's closing and hopefully other schools will pay close attention to and follow in the tradition of the Stoddard-Fleisher Middle School.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE LEOPOLD BORRELLO

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Leopold Borrello as he retires from an illustrious career as a Saginaw County Michigan jurist. Judge Borrello will be honored at a reception on May 23 in Saginaw by the community.

A native of Saginaw, Judge Borrello started working when he was in the third grade at his father's grocery store. After graduating from Saginaw High School in 1951, Judge Borrello received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Albion College and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Michigan Law School in 1958. He returned to the Saginaw area and opened a practice of law. He worked in solo practice and for several firms before heading

up his own firm of Borrello, Thomas and Jensen.

In 1987 Governor James Blanchard appointed him to the 10th Judicial Circuit Court. Judge Borrello became Chief Judge of the 10th Judicial Circuit Court in 1992 and has continued to serve in that capacity until his retirement on April 14th of this year. He ran unopposed in 1988, 1994 and 2000 to be returned to his place on the bench. During his tenure Judge Borrello presided over three one-man grand juries and numerous criminal and civil cases.

In addition to his work on the bench, Judge Borrello is also active with the Saginaw County Crime Prevention Council and the American Kennel Club, where he also serves as a show judge. Judge Borrello and his wife Audre have passed on their work ethic to their three sons: Stephen, an appellate court judge; Andre, a Saginaw attorney; and Murray, a professor at Alma College.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding the career of a hardworking, dedicated public servant, Leopold Borrello. His intelligence, common sense, and consideration for the public welfare have earned the well deserved respect of his fellow jurists and the esteem of the Saginaw community.

RECOGNIZING COLE S. KLAUWUH FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cole S. Klawuhn, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 94, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cole has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cole has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cole S. Klawuhn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO CONSULAR CORPS ASSOCIATION OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia.

In celebration of 44 years of promoting international understanding, I extend congratulations to the first Consular Corps in the United States, the Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia.

With the founding of the Corps, now one of the largest diplomatic associations in the Nation, a model was created that allows us to